2: Damm et al. --140 [3] (1909) 1938 Woleaians
116, 595 Aurupik

Most men have only one wife; but Sarfert found one old man on Uáu who had two.

2: Damm et al. --189 (1909) 1938 Woleaians
116, 595 Faraulep

Generally the natives are monogamous, but a man can have several wives, and the chief had four.

4: Krämer--110 (1909) 1937 Woleaians
116, 595 Lamotrek

The word for marriage is rŏle kannei, from rŏlim, the member of the house and kannei, to give, because the man receives everything from his wife. In connection with the description of the village, it was mentioned that usually the man moves into the house of the woman. For that reason polygamy is rare.

5: Kittlitz--150 (1827-8) 1858 Woleaians
116, 595, 551 Elato

We asked about their [MR: a tamol from Elato and others who were occupied in trade in the Marianas] families too, and learned that [MR: tamol] Orolitau has no less than three wives (although they might be sisters or other near relatives). Their names were: Letaurŭru, Lagŭol and Lamŏarup. One of his assistants, Sepa, named two: Mairuk and Mesa-uro; the third, Orotak, only had one; Namŏarimet.

6: Senfft--54
116, 595

(no date) 1905

Woleaians
Woleai
Lamotrek

Polygamy has been gradually replaced by monogamy, not because the ethics of the natives underwent any changes, but because of the decrease in the female population.

11: Born--189
116, 595, 584

(1903) 1904

Woleaians
Woleai

There is no law against polygamy, because of economic reasons monogamy is almost universal. If a young man wishes to marry, he must make large payments to his future father-in-law, and he must have some possessions, such as breadfruit and coconut trees and canoes. Poor men are badly off; it is extremely difficult for them to find a wife. Even a wealthy suitor may be rejected by the girl with the expression, "itoai (I do not want to)", if his appearance does not please her.

28: Spiro--133 [2] (1947-48) 1949 Woleaians
116, 622, 595 Ifalik

"Marriage is monogamous, though the informants said that in the past a chief could have two wives. But today not even the chiefs practice polygymy. 'We don't do that in this place.'"